



Mishawaka Communicator



Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Dave Wood, Mayor

www.mishawaka.in.gov

July 2016

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



On June 17th, Code Enforcement Director George Obren retired after 38 years with the City of Mishawaka. Obren was with the Mishawaka Police Department for 27 years, four of them serving as Police Chief, and retired from the MPD to take over as Director of Code Enforcement in 2005. Obren was instrumental in introducing the "Top 100", a program dedicated to addressing sub-standard housing issues in the city. This program has brought into compliance/code over 900 homes over a 10-year period and has played a huge role in maintaining the stability of neighborhoods and improving the overall appearance of Mishawaka. George's vigilance hasn't just addressed nuisance properties but also encouraged a sense of pride and promoted private investment in many

older properties within the City.

As a result of George's retirement, I am happy to announce the appointment of new Code Enforcement Director, Joe VanNevel. Born and raised in Mishawaka, Joe is a graduate of Marian High School and attended Indiana University receiving a BS in Business. Joe began his career with the City of Mishawaka as Aquatics and Rink Director for the Parks Department in 2004 and was hired as a Code Enforcement Officer by Obren in 2013.

"It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Mishawaka for 38 years," says Obren. "Joe has done a great job as a Code Officer and has a great deal of knowledge about our city and the high expectations that our citizens have in keeping the condition of our neighborhoods second to none. I am sure that Joe will continue to serve the citizens with the world-class service that they deserve."

We are very proud of George's accomplishments and wish him the best for his retirement. Mishawaka is truly a safer, cleaner place because of George Obren. I am also confident that Joe will carry on the good works of this department as Code Enforcement maintains a great relationship with the citizens of Mishawaka. Code Enforcement's hard work, diligence and dedication will continue to keep our city a great place to live, work, play and retire.

Some of you may wonder, "What is the function of Code Enforcement", so with the appointment of a new Director and the hiring of a new Code Enforcement Officer, I thought this would be the appropriate time to talk about Code Enforcement in the City of Mishawaka.

The Department of Code Enforcement is responsible for enforcing City ordinances as they pertain to public nuisance issues and substandard structures. The Code/Substandard Officer inspects property, houses, apartment units, mobile homes and other public and private buildings enforcing

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Sun, Skin and Aging

Health Information from Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center

Skin changes such as wrinkles and sagging skin are among the most visible signs of aging. While skin changes are related to environmental factors, genetic makeup, nutrition and other factors, the greatest single factor is sun exposure. You can see this by comparing areas of your body that have regular sun exposure with areas that are protected from sunlight.

"A small amount of sun per day is actually beneficial for seniors because it helps produce vitamin D that is vital for many of our body's functions," said Dave Stahl, Wellness Director at Saint Joseph Health System St. Paul's. "Seniors should get about 15-20 minutes of sunlight per day but should be careful to cover up after that." Too much sunlight can cause loss of elasticity (elastosis), non-cancerous skin growths (keratoacanthomas), pigment changes such as liver spots and thickening of the skin. Sun exposure has also been directly linked to skin cancers, including basal cell cancer, squamous cell carcinoma and melanoma.

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UPCOMING EVENTS!

Jul 4	Fireworks (Buetter Park following concert)
Jul 20	Kamm Island Fest
Aug 27-28	Renaissance Festival
Aug 29	Harvest Dance

Recreation Fires

As warmer weather approaches, neighbors have the right to be able to open their windows and enjoy the fresh air that we all expect this time of year. Please be respectful as you enjoy recreational fires. Questions should be directed to the Mishawaka Fire Department at (574) 257-0620. As always, burning trash and construction materials is prohibited.

Recycling Cart Placement

Remember to allow a minimum of four (4) feet of spacing from any obstacles such as parked cars, mailboxes, telephone poles, etc. If your bin is damaged contact Mishawaka Central Services office at (574) 258-1660 for assistance on replacing.

ONLINE ACCESS



<http://mishawaka.in.gov>



<http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka>



<http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator>



<http://mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation>

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

city codes, Indiana statutes and national building codes as they pertain to tall grass and weeds, animal issues, abandoned vehicles, snow removal, trash containment and exterior building maintenance. They are responsible for the enforcement of residential building codes in regard to any repairs or alterations and monitor any unfinished projects and respond to all calls pertaining to a violation of any of the above to include unsanitary or inadequate housing. Code receives complaints in a variety of ways including via the web, yet it is important to note that the overwhelming majority of code violations are self-initiated by our Code Officers who patrol assigned areas of the city nearly every day. Code Officers take a common sense approach when dealing with residents and make an effort to work with those who have financial or physical issues. The goal is always to obtain compliance.

Although there have been various incarnations of an all-encompassing enforcement group between City departments for decades to better keep Mishawaka's neighborhoods clean and safe, the Neighborhood Improvement Team was re-created several years ago to comprehensively address crime, blighted properties, and common nuisance issues that most cities face across America. These issues are often addressed by different departments within the city and the NIT is made up of representatives from each of those departments who meet once a month to discuss neighborhood issues or specific problem properties that each department faces. This is a great way to efficiently share information and even gather assistance that other departments may be able to offer. Working as a team, problems and issues are often addressed and solved much quicker than if each department tried to handle the issue alone.

Code Enforcement continues to work very closely with other city departments on many neighborhood issues. Some examples include assisting Planning with zoning and signage issues, assisting Community Development with vacant houses, assisting the Fire Department with burned structures and assisting the Police Department in remedying noise complaints, animal issues, parking and abandoned autos. Code Enforcement Officers are the eyes and ears of our community. If there is an issue you would like to report, there is a link on our website, <http://mishawaka.in.gov/reportaviolation> or you can call (574) 258-1612 during normal business hours.

Mayor Paul

Sun, Skin and Aging *(continued)*

Dehydration increases the risk of skin injury. Sometimes minor nutritional deficiencies can cause rashes, skin lesions and other skin changes, even if you have no other symptoms. "Drink enough fluids to keep your urine closer to the color of lemonade but not as dark as apple juice," says Stahl.

Keep skin moist with lotions and other moisturizers and AVOID soaps or lotions that are heavily perfumed. Bath oils are not recommended because they can cause you to slip and fall. Moist skin is more comfortable and will heal more quickly. "Try using coconut oil on your skin because your body absorbs it well, it refreshes your skin and you gain nutrients from it," Stahl said. "It's a good source of omega threes."

Scheduling regular wellness visits with your primary care provider is an important step to monitor skin changes over time.

Summer Concert Series 2016

Battell Park Bandshell

Mondays
7:00-8:00pm

July 11 Michiana Concert Band
July 18 The Whateverly Brothers
July 25 Jazz Assemblage
Aug 1 Pat Heiden Quartet
Aug 8 Michiana Concert Band
Aug 15 Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus
Aug 22 Mike Vaszari Combo
Aug 29 Harvest Dance

Beutter Park

Thursdays
6:30-8:30pm

MONDAY Melodious Funk
July 4 *(fireworks to follow)*
July 7 The Mongo Catz
July 14 Hey Annie
July 21 Memberz Only
July 22 Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival
July 28 Soul Funkshun
Aug 4 Marty Miles Band
Aug 11 Moonshine Crooners

Eberhart-Petro

Fridays
7:30-9:00pm

July 1 The Sandbar Bums
July 8 Southside Denny and the Snyders
July 22 Marcus Clingaman
July 29 Steve Michaels
Aug 5 Bryan Edington
Aug 12 Michael Smith



Family Movie Nights *(Movies begin at Dusk)*

July 30 "Aladdin" <i>(Beutter Park)</i>	Aug 13 "Finding Nemo" <i>(Merrifield Pool)</i>	Aug 27 "Remember the Titans" <i>(Merrifield Park)</i>
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Summer of Service Program

The Summer of Service program is a collaborative effort between area churches and the City of Mishawaka, with the goal of making a significant impact on our community through kindness and outreach activities such as painting, landscaping and minimal repairs. Residents must apply and meet household income limits established by HUD as well as meet Redevelopment Dept. program guidelines. Qualified elderly and disabled applicants will be given priority. To apply, contact Program Coordinator Marilyn Nelums-Jones at (574) 258-1609.

Weatherization Program

Real Services and the City of Mishawaka have joined forces to help low to moderate-low income qualified homeowners within the City of Mishawaka make their homes more energy efficient and safe. Funds are available for repairs (or possibly replacement) of insulation, electrical, plumbing, roof repairs, disability accessibility and more! To see if you qualify, contact Heidi May, Real Services Housing Specialist at (574) 284-7172 for further information.